

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0039673

Permit being assessed: BR9715IB.

For: Newport Chemical Complex, held by Solutia UK Ltd

At: Corporation Road , Newport, South Wales, NP19 4XF.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review, Reason: Other.

On 11/04/2022.

Parts of permit assessed: 3.1.1

NRW Lead Officer: Gareth Richards.

Report sent to: Steve Thomas, Environment Manager on 11/04/2022.

1. Summary of our findings (full details in section 4)

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	Assessed (A)	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
0	0

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

No action required.

3. What will happen next?

Any non-compliance we have identified and recorded on this form is an offence. It can result in criminal prosecution and/or suspension or revocation of your permit.

At this time, we do not intend to take any further action.

This statement does not stop us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.

4. Details of our assessment

Solutia are planning a replacement of their effluent discharge pipeline. This will involve full replacement of the discharge pipe on the seaward side of the sea wall, a distance of ~1360m. As part of this work there will be a period (currently scheduled as 12 - 19th August 2022) when the existing pipeline will not be available for use. During this period all normal

processes on the installation will be shut down so no process effluent is generated. However, in the event of rainfall there will still need to be a route available for the discharge of surface water, otherwise there is a risk of site flooding. Solutia have therefore requested use of a temporary discharge route via a local culvert and reed bed direct to the River Usk on the western side of the installation.

The composition the surface water discharges have been monitored regularly and are known to contain trace concentrations of PCP and PCBs. These result from historic site activities and are not due to the current regulated activities. Solutia use a reed bed system to reduce the releases of such compounds and the year on year annual releases are decreasing. An assessment by NRW's Water Quality Permitting Team has concluded that there are no significant environmental risks from the use of the proposed temporary discharge route.

The proposal involves on site pumping using polypropylene pipework to a sump point where a culvert passes under Corporation Rd and the rail track(ST 332995 185616). This route was viewed during a site audit on 23rd March 2022 and detailed in an attachment to an Email sent on 17th December 2021. A photograph of the sump (taken on 23rd March) has been provided to NRW. The sump needs to be cleaned out prior to use. In addition, the route outside the installation boundary is known to require some debris to be removed.

Permission is granted by NRW to use the temporary discharge route for site surface water subject to the following conditions:

- 1)** Solutia to provide advance notification to NRW of the period when the temporary discharge route will be used - this to include a start date/time and an end date/time.
- 2)** The sump point is cleaned and the full route to the Usk inspected and confirmed to be clear prior to use. NRW to be provided with a photograph of the cleaned sump and written confirmation of a satisfactory visual inspection of the route, prior to use.
- 3)** On any day when there is discharge of surface water using the temporary route, a day composite water sample is taken. This must be analysed for all parameters as detailed for Emission Point W2 in the permit and the results reported to NRW in accordance with the current permit reporting requirements defined in Permit Condition 4.2.3.

In all other respects the permit conditions are unaffected.

END.

If you have any queries about this report, or to discuss completion of any actions, please contact the NRW Officer named above.

Important information

Legal status of this report

Your permit is issued to you under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your permit and prevent pollution/harm of the environment. You must also ensure that you comply with any other relevant legislation that may apply to your site's operations.

This report explains the findings of our assessment and any action you are required to take. We categorise non-compliance using our guidance for assessing non-compliance at regulated sites.

When we find potential non-compliance/s we will normally give you advice on how to maintain compliance.

To correct non-compliance, we may:

- require you to take specific actions
- issue a notice
- review the conditions of your permit.

Any advice and guidance we give will be without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.

Assessment results and non-compliance categories (used in section 1):

Assessment result	Description
Assessed (A)	Assessed or assessed in part, no evidence of non-compliance found
Action only (X)	Action only relating to the activity assessment
Ongoing (O)	Ongoing non-compliance, not scored

Non-compliance category	Description	Score
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	60
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	31
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	4
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property	0.1

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator

Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

What are suspended scores?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend scores for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. Suspended scores will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of Industry and Waste action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**A: Permitted activities**

- A1 Specified by permit

B: Infrastructure

- B1 Infrastructure – Engineering for prevention and control of emissions
- B2 Infrastructure – Closure and decommissioning
- B3 Infrastructure – Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)
- B4 Infrastructure – Containment of stored materials
- B5 Infrastructure – Plant and equipment

C: General management

- C1 General management – Staff competency/training
- C2 General management – Management system and operating procedures
- C3 General management – Materials acceptance
- C4 General management – Storage, handling, labelling and segregation

D: Incident management

- D1 Incident management – Site security
- D2 Incident management – Accidents, emergency and incident planning

E: Emissions

- E1 Emissions – Air
- E2 Emissions – Land and groundwater
- E3 Emissions – Surface water
- E4 Emissions – Sewer
- E5 Emissions – Waste

F: Amenity

- F1 Amenity – Odour
- F2 Amenity – Noise
- F3 Amenity – Dust/fibres/particulates and litter
- F4 Amenity – Pests/birds and scavengers
- F5 Amenity – Deposits on road

G: Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting

- G1 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Monitoring of emissions and environment
- G2 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Records of activity, site diary/journal/events
- G3 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Maintenance records
- G4 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales

H: Resources efficiency

- H1 Resource efficiency – Efficient use of raw materials
- H2 Resource efficiency – Energy efficiency

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution, serving a notice on you and/or suspension or revocation of your permit. See our Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance for further information.

Data protection notice

You should make sure that anyone named in this report knows that the information it contains will be processed by Natural Resources Wales to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s).

We may also use and/or disclose the report in connection with:

- offering or providing you with our literature or services relating to environmental matters
- consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (e.g. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- providing public register information to enquirers
- investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- assessing customer service satisfaction and improving our service
- Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations requests.

We may also pass it on to our agents or representatives to do these things on our behalf.

Disclosure of information – this report will be available to view on-line

If you think this report contains commercially confidential information that should not be placed on our public register, you must contact your local Natural Resources Wales office within **fifteen working days** of receiving this report, using the contact details in the accompanying email or letter. You must give a full explanation of why it should not be added to our public register, including specifying which information is commercially confidential. We will assess your request and respond to you within 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at ask@ombudsman.wales

Welsh Language Standards

We are committed to establishing Natural Resources Wales as a naturally bilingual organisation. We will provide compliance reports in your preferred language.